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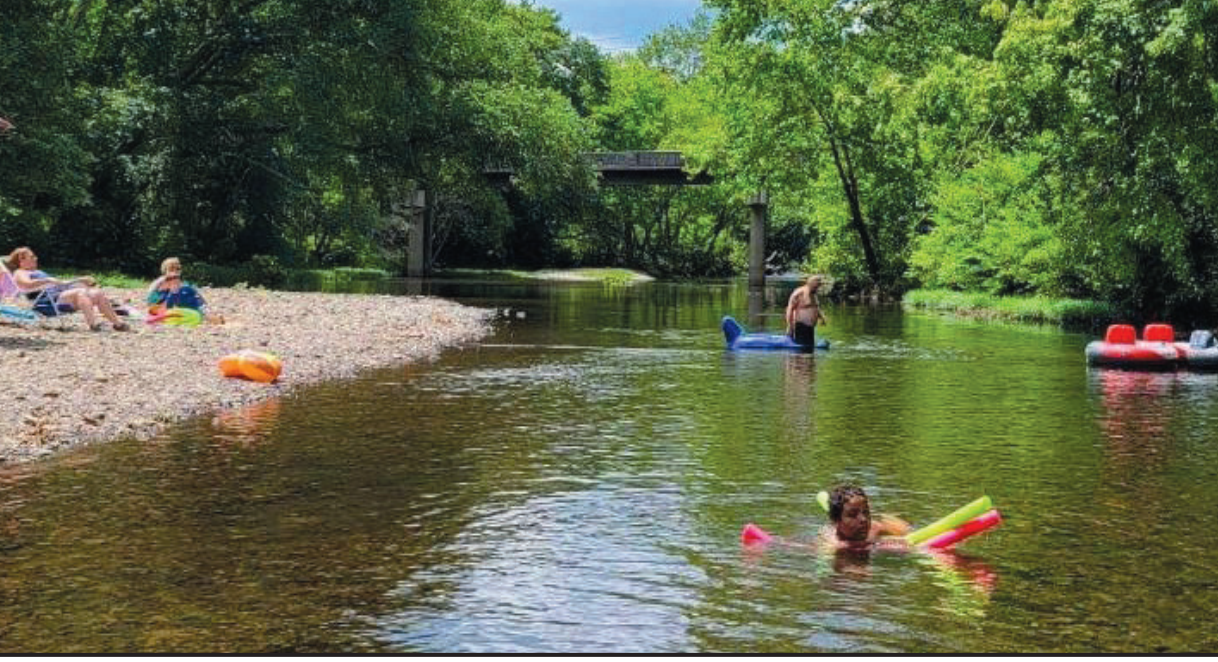
THE NEW CASTLE RECORD



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Craig County residents speak out on Craigs Creek water rights issue



Paul Holtman, along with her family and friends spend many summer days on Craigs Creek, being landowners. "We truly enjoy our pastime on Craig's Creek!" they shared.

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

The "battle" of owning the water rights on Craigs Creek is continuing for the next few months.

Families are joining together to try and assure that the pleasure of using a creek remains intact.

Though uncleanliness from people using the creek happens, it still appears the overall preference is to keep the waterway open for all to enjoy.

Several families have commented on the water rights issue:

"The creek should be able to be enjoyed by all, but those using the creek need to respect the properties they go past as they float on by, enjoying Gods creation." – Carol Looney.

"I grew up on this creek. I remember my grandmother Violet Reynolds Dudding floating and reading a book, but it was just her on her own, no kayak. I think only God can dictate the water ways because He is the one who created them for all of us to use. I find it sad that I

cannot go to property that my grandmother's family use to own, so I can show my granddaughter where I spent my summers. Plus, I remember Camp On Craig and them teaching us at summer camp how to canoe. I love the escape of being at the creek and around water. It is just a peaceful time. I hate that people who own all these properties wants to try to control water ways because they own both sides of the creek banks. I hope this court case gets thrown out and people get to enjoy the creek for years to come." – Brenda Lipis

"There's already nothing for kids to do so let's just take that from them too!...Not all children play video games all day. Some like to fish, kayak and just float. That's one of our biggest family things to do during the summer." – Chastity Phoenix Sirry

"I don't see how anyone could own the water." – Samuel Catterton

"I think it's shameful that anyone would try to take that away from ev-



Levi Jarrell enjoys his kayak with his family on Craigs Creek.

eryone." – Kelly Kreps Thomas

"I think it is really sad that someone is trying to block the creek." – Jean Elmore

"No one person owns the water, just the property on either side or both sides. The state "owns" the creek/river waters and the right

to fish in navigable waters, so this makes them available for public to use them and enjoy them. As long as the person(s) do NOT get out onto the owner's property and are just floating by, then I don't see how they can stop anyone from floating by their property.

See **Creek** page 2



During the pregame, both teams joined together for prayer.

Craig GATA BB team enjoyed playing at Virginia Tech campus

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Basketball is a fast paced, exciting sport which has opened its doors to girls in Craig County on a travel team the last few years.

Recently, on Jan. 12, the Craig County Girls 6th grade "Get After Them Aggressively" GATA Academy travel basketball team was invited to play at halftime at the Virginia Tech girls basketball game.

Virginia Tech was playing Louisville.

"Ed Robitson, a local AAU Basketball coach reached out, knowing my daughter Emily was on a travel basket-

ball team and VT was in the need to find teams to play at the girls half-time game," Gina Smith shared. "Timothy Clarke, Senior director Chief of Staff for Virginia Tech women's basketball set everything up."

"Craig County student, Emily Smith and her teammates had the experience of a lifetime!" her mother, Gina shared.

There are currently nine girls on the GATA 6th grade girls travel basketball team. One player, Brooke Boone was unable to attend, therefore they picked up two guest players, the Elder sisters to make a total of 10 players

See **GATA**, page 2



The Craig County Girls 6th grade "Get After Them Aggressively" GATA Academy travel basketball team was invited to play at halftime at the VT girls basketball game. Front row: Emily Smith - 2, Olivia Burger - 13, Leela Hamden - 0, Brooklyn Beckner - 25, Kate Elder - 14 and Jayden Deaner - 3. Back row: Emma Elder - 5, Aaliyah Johnson - 1, Emma Rickman - 12 and Callie Dozier - 36.

Hearing on 'the battle of Craig's Creek' postponed to May 1

Pam Dudding
Contributing writer

Craig County is known for its beauty, with its meandering creeks and mountainous landscapes that can be breathtaking during peak seasons.

Many families plan their weekends on the creeks with their kayaks, tubes and little fishing boats to relax and enjoy the scenery in a very slow mode.

Recently, however there has been a proposition to block certain areas of the creek, which are main thoroughways of the more commonly used creeks for these enjoyments. The dispute is being called "The Battle of Craig's Creek".

"So, our story is that, as a landowner on Craig's Creek we have enjoyed for over 100 years the freedom to paddle anywhere on Craigs Creek," shared Bob Murray. "Now, a large landowner, Walter Lemmon is suing the State of Virginia to rule that landowners on either side of the stream "own" the creek bottom and hence, the water. That ruling will allow him to shut down all public access to the stream and make it a crime of trespassing. He owns both sides in a number of locations in Craig and plans to stop all traffic."

Headed, "Furthermore, if you are a neighbor on the creek owning land you will not be able to 'trespass' on

his side of the creek. He has long notified us across the creek from him not to paddle on his side of the creek."

It was shared that many landowners who live on the creek, organized and met one Saturday at Wilderness Adventure Camp. The group is called "Friends of Craigs Creek." There are currently 137 members and "increasing daily," they shared.

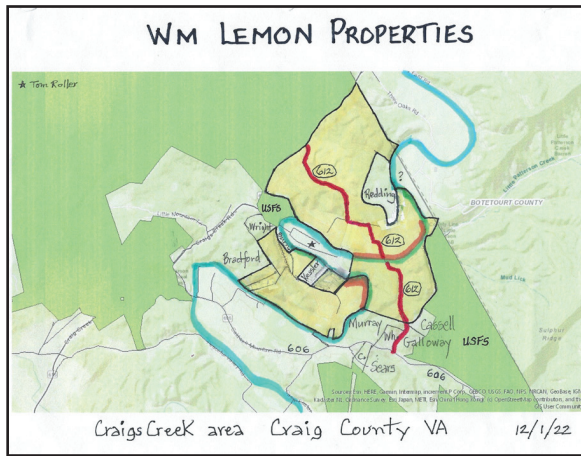
"There were about 100-plus angry neighbors at the initial meeting," Murray added.

They have set up a website and created a newsletter to help share the news.

The discrepancy has

arisen with visiting people using the rights to others' said owned land.

Lemon wrote to Murray, "My purpose in writing you is not to advise you that I want to be an unfriendly neighbor, but to defend the title to my land against trespassers who claim a property right adverse to mine. I am aware that you and your family have enjoyed Craigs Creek for many years and will enjoy same for years to come, but for legal reasons, I must advise you that I own to the center Craigs Creek beginning at a common corner with the cabin owned by the heirs of Fred Hamlin and continuing upstream a distance of 447 feet, more



The Craigs Creek meanders around several people's properties in Craig County, creating a perfect waterway for families to enjoy kayaking, fishing and tubing.

or less, and that any use of said land or water by you or your guest without my permission will be considered an act of trespass."


The first court hearing which was set in New Castle Courthouse on Feb. will be considered an act

See **Hearing**, page 2

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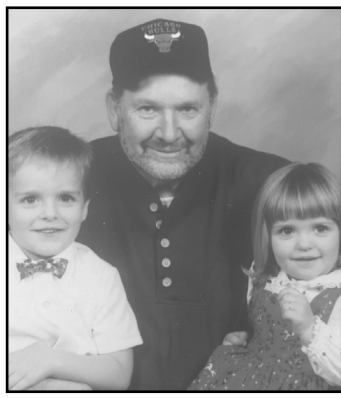
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OBITUARY

Sarver, Ernest W.

Ernest W. Sarver "Jiggs", 89 of New Castle, passed away Monday, Feb. 6, 2023. He was preceded in death by his parents, Wilmer W. & Ethel J. Sarver; daughter, Terressa G. Sarver; grandson, BJ Sarver; great-grandchildren, Christopher & Harlie Howard; sister, Stella Lafon.



er (Anita), Robert E. Sarver (Rebecca), Ricky Sarver, & Gloria Mills; 5 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandson; brother, Duke Sarver & wife Bonnie; sister, Elma Jane Layman; numerous nieces & nephews.

He is survived by wife of 44 years, Janice Sarver; children, Anna Harrison (David), William Sar-

er announced at a later date. Arrangements by Paitsel Funeral Home: paitselfh.com.

\$200K given to Feeding SWVA

Salem—The William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust has awarded Feeding Southwest Virginia a \$200,000 grant to support the organization's operational expenses as it implements its strategic plan to nourish neighbors, engage community partners and develop solutions to address food insecurity.

The grant will be particularly impactful in counties like Buchanan, Lee and Dickenson, where food insecurity rates are over 19% compared to Virginia's average of 7.7%. The organization said the

support will aid Feeding Southwest Virginia in its efforts to provide food to over 140,000 individuals who need food assistance in the region.

"This is an amazing partnership for Feeding Southwest Virginia," said Pamela Irvine, CEO of Feeding Southwest Virginia. "The generosity of the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust allows us to carry out our strategic plan and further our mission to reduce hunger."

One in eight individuals in the 26 counties and nine city service region are food insecure. Feeding Southwest Virginia said

the grant will play a critical role in helping provide nutritious food to families in need.

"Feeding Southwest Virginia is deeply committed to addressing food insecurity in the region and is grateful for the support of the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust. With this grant, the organization will be able to continue its work of nourishing neighbors and creating a more equitable food system," the organization said in a statement.

-The New Castle Record

Radford releases fall Dean's List

RADFORD—Radford University has released its Dean's List for fall 2022. Appearing on the Dean's List is the most prestigious academic recognition Radford University students can receive for their performance during a semester.

Students will be placed on the Dean's List if they meet four specific criteria. They must have 12 semester hours of coursework graded

A-F; earn GPA's of at least 3.4 for courses not graded on a pass-fail basis; obtain no grade lower than "C"; and receive no incomplete grades.

Ashlyn Leigh Bradley of New Castle

Kayla Alexandra Hudson of New Castle

Mackenzie Brittan Fisher of New Castle

Lauren Faith Craddock of New Castle

Marjorie Taylore Price

of New Castle *Julia A Bolte* of New Castle

Radford University is a comprehensive public university of 7,718 students that has received national recognition for many of its undergraduate and graduate academic programs, as well as its sustainability initiatives.

-The New Castle Record

NOTICE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Pursuant to the terms of those certain Decrees of Sale from the Circuit Court of Craig County, the undersigned Special Commissioner will offer for sale at public auction the following described real estate, at the Craig County Courthouse, 182 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia on March 3, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. The sale is subject to the following terms and conditions and such other terms and conditions as may be announced the day of sale:

OWNER	DESCRIPTION	TAX MAP #
Alderson Blankenship Roy & Ruth Britt Mark Edwards	5 Acres Scottish Lane Lot 14 Blk 17 Craig Springs 16.96Ac. Corner Black Diamond Dr. & Johns Creek Mtn. Rd.	37-A-49B 53A-1-17-14
Bruce King Vincent Price	43.39Ac. Sinking Creek 287 Virginia Mineral Springs Rd. & Lot	79A-1-12 113-A-19 48A-2-3-A & 48A-2-3-5

TERMS OF SALE: All sales are subject to confirmation by the Court. The highest bidder shall deposit twenty percent (20%) of its bid, or Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) dollars, whichever is more, which sum shall be credited to the purchase price at closing. All deposits must be in the form of personal or business check with bank certification letter, cash, bank certified check or money order. The property will be conveyed by Special Warranty Deed, subject to any easements and covenants of record, and any rights of persons in possession.

The Special Commissioner expressly reserves the right to keep the bidding open for any length of time, postpone the sale to a later date, reject any and all bids, review the qualifications of all bidders, and amend or supplement the terms of sale by verbal announcements prior to or during the sale.

This sale is being conducted by N. Reid Broughton, Special Commissioner, Sands Anderson PC, P.O. Box 2009, Christiansburg, Virginia 24068. For more information, please contact Kimberly A. Cregger, Paralegal, Sands Anderson PC at 1-800-881-8803.



COURTESY PHOTO
Faye Powers hosts many of her family members and friends for get-togethers, as they enjoy kayaking and tubing on Craigs Creek.

If people are breaking the law, then that is what the law enforcement are there for. I know this has been taken to court before and a land owner lost and he did own property on both sides for several miles along the creek. I don't understand how the law would have changed from then to now." - Stephanie Snider Looney

"No one owns the creek. This has been tried before. It is navigational water." - Lee Looney

"Me and my siblings stayed on the creek when we were kids and we loved it! We swam, fished and that was our life growing up. I think it is wrong to try to stop people from using the creek for enjoyment." - Carolyn Sue Via

"I'm not defending anyone that is trying to stop people from kayaking/ floating, but the landowners own the pay the taxes on the land under the water. You have to touch bottom somewhere at some time! I think landowners should not be taxes on that portion of their property that is covered by water. Maybe if they didn't have to pay taxes on that then they would feel bet-

Creek

from page 1

ter about it being open to the public. If you are paying taxes on a piece of property, would you want everyone using it? I doubt it." - Sammy Abbott

"I totally agree that property owners should not be taxed on any property that is covered by water. I think not being taxed would be something worth fighting for. And yes, my dad had property on Johns Creek that was used by many people fishing, floating, kayaking and yes, we had to clean up the sides of the creek quite often. I personally feel people should be able to use the creek. I have personally witnessed the happiness and joy of people floating by or fishing with their kids, family and friends." - Stephanie Snider Looney

"The land owner would have to have a kings grant to own the ground under the water if the land owner doesn't have a king grant then people can wade down the creek and the only way that the land owner can say something is if people get out of the water on the banks of the land owner." - James Hicks

"That is one thing in Craig County that the community members can do as a family. Not one person owns the middle of the creek. It is a sham that one person has that much time on their hands to cause such a stir!" - Gina Smith

"If this private land owner wins, it will ripple across the state and allow every recreational water way to be carved up." -

David Givens
"I hate to see it closed, but people trashing the creek is a valid reason for the land owners to complain! If people would respect the land and creek and the landowners, there probably would not be a problem!" - Danny Kesler
"I own property on Craig Creek and one on the Greenbrier River in WV. As a property owner of both, people have a right to float down. I don't mind if anyone hangs out and takes a break on the side. Just be respectful." - Angie Guthrie-Ponton

"The only thing I can say, is that we, as landowners of both sides of the creek do not have a problem with people passing through our property. I think it is an awesome thing that we have kayakers who love to bring their families and float by. Most of the floaters are good people and do not leave trash. I would say that for every 10 people that leave trash, there is 110 people following behind that pick it up. Landowners only want respect so as long as the floaters show respect, we have no problems." - Steve and Faye Powers

Additional submissions of comments can be sent to ncrpamdudding@yahoo.com.

The heartfelt goal of the community seems to be to come to an agreement which will benefit landowners as well as water users, preserving the land and the water and the fun families can still have as well as fishing.

Hearing

from page 1

8 has been postponed to May 1 at 10 a.m. and a trial in July.

Murray noted, "The lawyer for Lemon is Lenden Eakin and that the State has appointed Rosalee Fessier (540-255-6198) to defend us. We are hopping mad and know that passage of this will KILL tourism to the County while it severely restricts our use of the stream."

Murray shared that he feels there has not been county interest in this issue, stating, "Inexplicably, the Craig Tourism Commission is not interested nor the County Administrator. Same for Town Council, but Botetourt County via Terry Austin is on our side as this will be counter to their new Tracks to Trails 10-million-dollar new path."

However, on Feb. 2, the Craig County Board of Supervisors sent a "Resolution Expressing Support for Free and Open Public Waters."

It states: "Whereas, the Board of Supervisors of Craig County, Virginia,

recognizes that all the public waters located in the County are a natural resource that must be protected and have an important recreational and economic benefit for the citizens of the County and the Commonwealth as a whole; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Virginia Marine Resources Commission considers the subaqueous beds of stream segments to be State owned pursuant to Code Section 28.2-1200; and

Whereas, the Board desires to ensure that the public waters of the County are protected and remain open and available to the citizens of the County for generations to come; and

Whereas, in response to claims of ownership of certain waters located in the County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the County recognizes that all the public waters located in the County are a natural resource that must be protected and have an important recreational and economic benefit for the

citizens of the County and the Commonwealth as a whole and that the Board supports the protection and the free and open use by the public of the public waters located in the County.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately."

Murray also sent a letter to the editor of the local paper and the Roanoke Times, stating, "To ban public access to Craigs creek is to destroy one of the major attractions of visiting Craig County. Requiring approval from the owners on each side of the creek through its entirety, in effect stops all public traffic. I am an owner of a good section of Craigs Creek, and while I am not happy to see all the trash and noise that visitors bring, the alternative is horrible. We must all get together and make sure that beautiful Craigs creek is open to all!"

With many more opinions being voiced in Craig County, it seems the goal remains for all to come to an agreement which will benefit landowners as well as water users.

GATA

from page 1

to play a five on five game. They played five on five for eight minutes on the Virginia Tech court for the halftime show.

Afterwards, they were invited to have a meet and greet with the college players, coaches and staff.

They asked questions and many received autographs from the Virginia Tech players.

The GATA Acad-

emy team coach is Erick Burger, who was born and raised in Craig County. Also, assisting was Matt Rickman.

"It was such a great experience for all the girls," Smith shared. "I just want to say thank you to the VT Athletics and staff for including our local youth and community. It surely put a big smile on our girls' faces!"

Rabies Vaccination Clinic
 Dogs and cats 3 months of age and older. Rabies vaccination is required for dog license (due now). Please leash all pets.
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\$10K grant provides scholarships for Virginia Western machining students

ROANOKE – The Gene Haas Foundation selected the School of Career and Corporate Training at Virginia Western Community College to receive a \$10,000 grant in fall 2022. The grant provides scholarships for students to take the college's courses in machining. This program provides training from the Fundamentals of Machining all the way to CNC Machining with both Mills and Lathes.

Machine operators and machinists make parts for an array of technology, such as pacemakers and cellphones, as well as planes and bridges. The Gene Haas Foundation's primary goal is to build skills in the machining industry by providing scholarships for CNC (Computerized Numerical Control) machine technology students and certifications.

The Gene Haas Foundation was established in 1999, by Gene Haas, founder and owner of Haas Automation, Inc., to

support the needs of the local community. The foundation later expanded its mission to include support for manufacturing training programs throughout North America and beyond.

The Gene Haas Foundation donates millions of dollars every year to manufacturing education and the community, with the goal of expanding the availability of high-quality manufacturing technology training worldwide.

"Combined with the state FastForward funding, this scholarship could help up to 16 students enter into Machining as a new career this year," said Bryan Walke, course coordinator for the School of Career and Corporate Training. "We take pride in seeing how these skills lead to rewarding careers and impact our student's futures."

Paul Gillespie, an instructor in the machining program, first heard about the grant and followed through with the application process. This is

the second grant that the Gene Haas Foundation has awarded Virginia Western.

Gillespie and fellow instructor Alan Bible teach Machining courses year-round. The Gene Haas Scholarship has provided funds for students in their Fundamentals, Milling, Turning and Advanced courses.

Workforce development is a key component of the machining program, Gillespie said. Each of the four courses offer students the opportunity to receive two or three credentials from the National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS).

Virginia Western student Cross Yonce received a scholarship because of the Gene Haas Foundation award. "The scholarship has helped me by allowing me to take the Milling class in an attempt to further my career," said Yonce, who completed Bible's course in January. The machining program also has offered him a sense of community. "I enjoyed the people I got to meet and hang out with

throughout the duration of the class."

Machining falls in a category of a high-demand workforce skill. Gillespie said the majority of his students are already employed – companies "send them to us for extra training." This creates an environment where students "want to learn," and often receive state funding. "They go back to their employers with their employers' support." About a third of the program's students have no experience before starting in the Fundamentals course. "They get jobs right away," Gillespie said.

The Gene Haas Scholarship has specifically helped some students who had moved from out of state and did not yet qualify for state programs such as FastForward or the G3 Scholarship.

Machining offers good starting pay and stable employment if you like mechanical things and working with your hands, Gillespie said. "Those who do, usually latch onto it and like it."



COURTESY PHOTO

Cross Yonce received the Gene Haas Scholarship toward his Machining coursework at Virginia Western Community College. The Gene Haas Foundation awarded Virginia Western's School of Career and Corporate Training a \$10,000 grant to fund scholarships for Machining students.

The Machining Fundamentals I and II course started Feb. 13. Students can learn the skills major manufacturing employers are looking for and earn valuable credentials. The training takes just seven weeks, and the course is included in the VA Ready initiative, which can earn each student a

credential achievement award of \$1,000. To register, visit:

https://virginiawestern.edu/augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassListing.ClassListingDisplay&int_category_id=9&int_subcategory_id=80&int_catalog_id=

-The New Castle Record



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Roanoke County Awarded \$820K for improvements to Wood Haven Technology Park near I-81, I-581

Alia Boyd
aboyle@mainstreetnewspapers.com

Roanoke County announced on Monday that Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-9th) has secured \$820,000 in new funding for a project to increase the Wood Haven Technology Park's competitiveness for industry. The park is located near the I-81 and I-581 interchange.

Roanoke County made a Community Project Funding request to fund the extension of additional water utility capacity to the Wood Haven Technology Park. The county said the funds will go toward improving the site's water infrastructure to make it more attractive for future development.

"I was glad to submit this federal funding request to increase the water supply to Wood Haven Technology Park," Griffith said. "The funds will enhance available utility capacity, hopefully accelerating the property's speed to market and providing

See **Park** page 4

Upcoming public meetings scheduled in Craig County

Feb. 15

A CPMT meeting at CPMT – Department of Social Services will be at 1 p.m.

Feb. 18

A rabies drive-through clinic will be on Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Craig County Fairgrounds. The cost will be \$15 per dog or cat. It will be administered by Dr. Marge Lewter and hosted by the Craig County Rescue Squad. Call 540-864-5115 for more info.

Feb. 20

The New Castle Town Council will meet from 7-8 p.m. at the New Castle Town Hall at 339 Market Street in New Castle.

Feb. 21

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a citizen comment period from 9-10:30 a.m. in the courthouse breakroom.

Feb. 25

A wild game dinner will be Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m. at Roanoke Moose Lodge #284. It will be hosted by Catawba Valley Baptist Church for their youth. The evening includes a dinner, giveaways, raffles, a silent auction and the infamous live auction. Purchase tickets at CATAWBAVALLEY.org.

A spaghetti supper "inflation fighting" fundraiser will be held by the Johns Creek Volunteer Fire Department Saturday, Feb. 25 at 5 p.m. at the Forks of Johns Creek Christian Church, next door to the Johns Creek

Volunteer Fire Department building at 116 Dicks Creek Road in New Castle. The \$10 meal will include an entrée, Italian bread, salad, dessert and a drink.

March 15

A CPMT meeting at CPMT – Department of Social Services will be at 1 p.m.

March 20

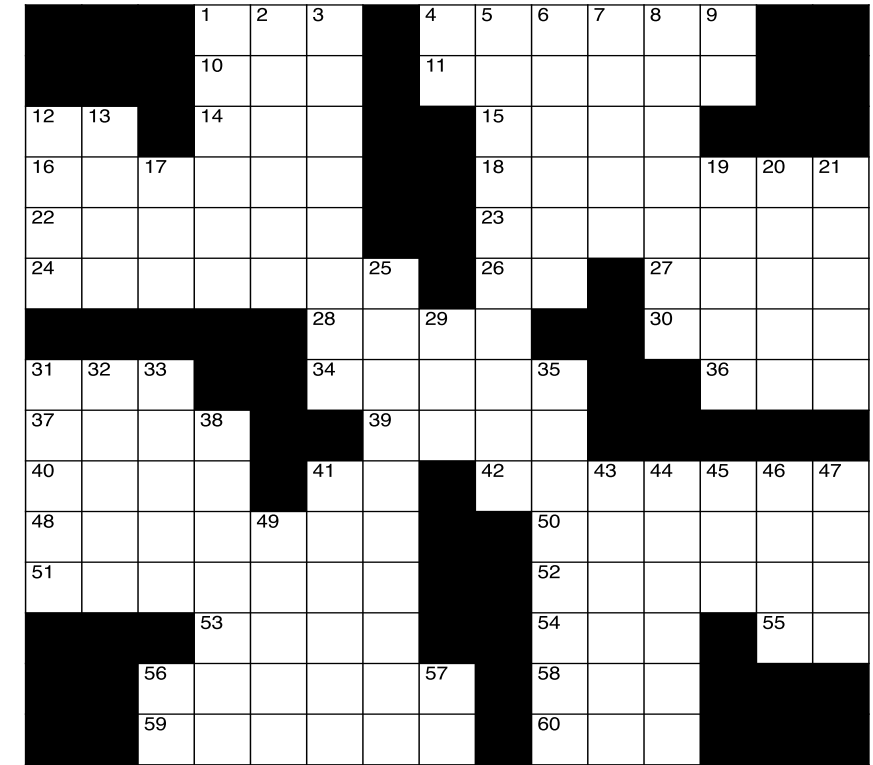
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March 21

Rep. Morgan Griffith will hold a citizen comment period from 9-10:30 a.m. in the courthouse breakroom.

-The New Castle Record

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS
1. Revolutions per minute
4. Hymns
10. Brew
11. Did not acknowledge
12. Atomic #77
14. Partly digested food
15. Not one
16. Lesotho capital
18. Copyreading
22. Living organism that feeds on organic matter
23. One's biological father
24. An aggregate of molecules
26. Equally
27. Khoikhoi people
28. Jump in figure skating
30. Lantern
31. TV network
34. Georges __, French

philosopher
36. Sharp, shrill bark
37. Albanian monetary units
39. Launched Apollo
40. One who graduated
41. Exist
42. Passed by
48. Very unpleasant smell
50. Graduates
51. Seedless raisin
52. Self-protection
53. Clue
54. Life-savers
55. Ingest too much
56. Misrepresented
58. Small Eurasian deer
59. Most mocking
60. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN
1. Flower cluster
2. A form
3. Inner organ regions
4. Local law enforcement
5. A citizen of Senegal
6. Positively charged electrodes
7. Connects granules
8. Business practice
9. The Mount Rushmore State
12. Leader
13. Hindu queen
17. Proofreading mark
19. European country
20. Greek mythological nymph
21. Grandfather
25. Clears
29. Amount of time

31. Mollusks
32. German municipality
33. Body part
35. City of Angels
38. Suffocate
41. Pleasing to the eye
43. Poplar trees (Spanish)
44. Ship officer
45. Individual investment account (abbr.)
46. Prefix meaning within
47. Ceased to live
49. Day by day
56. Not color
57. Condition of withdrawal (abbr.)

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OPINION

'2023: The Year of the Book'

Library Corner
Empowering individuals to build a stronger community
By Michaela Crawford

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines a New Year's resolution as, "a promise to do something different in the next year." I set the bar high this year. My New Year's Resolution for 2023 is to read one book per week and I am thus far proud to say I have been rather successful. But why have I set this grandiose goal for myself when I have several other obligations which take almost if not all of my day? There are numerous reasons beyond personal enjoyment for which I have chosen to undertake this particular resolution.

First, I hope to decrease my overall screen time. I could find myself indulging in a Netflix binge, in which Netflix blatantly judges me as I catch a glimpse of my terrifying reflection in the solid color TV screen after I've completed all but one episode of an entire

season at 3:19 a.m. Or I could totally dominate level 282 of Candy Crush. Even better, I could choose instead to mindlessly scroll Facebook for 2 hours and have to back out of 23 pages before reaching the home page again. Instead I am choosing to read.

Secondly, I need to shut out the world for a few moments every day. The past several years have been one heck of a wild ride. Social and news media are available at a moment's notice and often automatically notify you of new information. The consistent instantaneous awareness of information is oftentimes overwhelming. Your emotional reactions tend to change rapidly in response to these relentless notifications. Oh and lest I forget, your mounting self-esteem issues from the constant comparison of yourself to others.

I am choosing to shut out the latest horrible and worrisome news and each day I'm dropping those pesky twenty minutes in which I feel the need to berate myself because

I didn't make special pancakes with homemade blueberry syrup for my kids' breakfast like that mom on Tik-Tok did for her 8 children before going to work and after her 1 mile daily jog. (I know the likelihood of the last said situation is slim and none, but you get where I'm going.) I highly recommend allowing yourself to use your time wisely and choose to read instead of continuing the downward spiral of worry, anxiety, and berating. (You can thank me later.)

My absolute favorite author, J.K. Rowling said, "Something very magical can happen when you read a good book." It's true; the powers of reading cannot be matched. This brings me to my final reason for my lofty goal; I am in constant pursuit of knowledge.

And not the traditional sense of knowledge by reading completely non-fiction materials. Regardless of the book genre; fiction, non-fiction, biography, etc., you obtain knowledge in some way, shape, or form. Knowledge encompasses many realms such as skill-building, emotional competence, social, political, ethical, and religious understanding. You may find yourself entirely in your next book or completely change how you perceive your surroundings. Books have the capability to alter your current perception and that in itself is complete and utter magic. Not to be a corny 1990s poster in an elementary school library, but reading is a total workout for your brain!

The three aforementioned reasons may have you asking at this point, "So, is there anything I can't find between the pages of a book." I may be a biased librarian and bibliophile, but no! I personally recommend setting a realistic goal and don't beat yourself up if your week is absolute chaos and you only read 10 pages. Instead, recognize your 10-page achievement and determine how to chisel out some time for yourself



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

even when your world is upside down.

My 52 book goal for 2023 may seem outrageous, impossible even, but I'm not sweating it. The benefits of reading heavily outweigh remaining stressed and overwhelmed. So join me and together, let's make 2023 the year of the book!

Craig County Public Library events and programs:
Current:
"Book Bags" for kids. Check out a book with a bag of related materials and activities to enjoy with your child. (AVAILABLE NOW)
Early Literacy Calendars (AVAILABLE NOW)
Dolly Parton Imagination Library registration for children under the age of 5 (ONGOING)
Take and Make Crafts February crafts (AVAILABLE NOW)
Upcoming:
First Friday book sale-Friday, March 3 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Fill a library bag for \$5 with DVDs, books, and audiobooks from our book sale selection. More items are available for viewing upon request in our book barns.
Andrew Lewis Middle School Craft Show Saturday, Feb. 18 9 a.m.-3 p.m. We will be on-site selling dip mixes from Dips 'n' More and giving away free books.
Take Your Child to the Library Day Saturday, Feb. 25 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Stay tuned for further information!
Art to Remember fundraiser with Craig County Childcare Center. Stay tuned for further information!
Stay up-to-date on all library programs and events by following us on our Facebook page.

E&C Oversight Subcommittee tackles COVID-19

Morgan Griffith
Representative

Three years on, our nation continues to reel from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than one million Americans have died as a result of the pandemic. Among those were over 23,000 Virginians, including State Senator Ben Chafin of Lebanon, Virginia, and my friend and former Emory and Henry roommate Wally Nelson. We have all lost friends, loved ones, and acquaintances. Congress must do all it can to understand this outbreak and better prepare for similar events in the future.

Last year, I made a promise that if named

Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce, it would be a priority of mine to investigate all aspects of COVID-19.

That's exactly what I've done. Since the start of this Congress, we've already held two Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee hearings on COVID-19.

Our first Oversight Subcommittee hearing explored the importance of investigating the origins of potential pandemic pathogens so we can be better prepared moving forward.

Questions surrounding COVID's origins remain. The initial explanation given for the COVID-19 outbreak was a spillover infection, with the virus transferring from bats to humans in the Wuhan

See COVID-19, page 7

Park

from page 7

"On behalf of the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors I want to thank Congressman Griffith and his staff for securing this additional funding to make one of the premier economic development sites in our region even better," Roanoke County Administrator Richard L. Caywood said in a statement.

economic benefits to the entire Roanoke Region."

Roanoke County requested these funds to address the need for greater water capacity at the site. Wood Haven Technology Park has been seeing greater interest from site selectors.

The county said it is clear that many projects are requiring large water and sewer utility capacities. Many of the requirements for significant utility usage correspond with significant capital investment and high-wage employment creation.

The proposed project seeks to increase water supply to the 110-acre site, making it significantly more attractive to water-intensive business operations that may be interested in establishing a facility in the park.

Roanoke County said Wood Haven Technology Park is ideally situated in relation to transportation infrastructure, making it an attractive site, and the regional capacity of water availability has long been a regional advantage.

Currently, water is provided to the site by the Western Virginia Water Authority with water sourced from Spring Hollow. The new work will bore under I-81 to install a second line that offers a redundant supply of

See Park, page 7

THE NEW CASTLE RECORD

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V DOT ROADWATCH

INTERSTATE 81
INTERSTATE 81 LANE WIDENING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT EXIT 137 TO EXIT 141 – A \$179 million design-build project to widen both directions of I-81 between mile markers 136.6 and 141.8 from two to three lanes is set to begin. Starting in February and continuing into the early summer, work will be performed on the inside and outside shoulders along a five-mile section of both northbound and southbound Interstate 81 in Roanoke County and the city of Salem. The shoulders will be built up before barrier wall can be installed for road crews to work behind. Barrier wall will be installed along the shoulders in the spring and summer. Two lanes of I-81 traffic in each direction will remain open during the project with periodic lane closures scheduled during nighttime hours or outside of peak travel times as needed. Drivers can expect the following lane closures and upcoming impacts on northbound and southbound I-81:

TRAFFIC SHIFT ON WILDWOOD ROAD: Expect a traffic shift with narrow width on Wildwood road after exiting I-81 southbound heading towards Salem. Southbound and northbound I-81 exit and entrance ramp narrows possible at Route 311.
WORK ZONE SPEED: With narrow spacing in lanes due to barrier walls, lack of shoulders and lane shifts in various locations, drivers should adhere to posted 60 mph speed limits in the work zone and allow space when following a vehicle.
RAMP CLOSURES: Ramp closures are possible during nighttime hours, 12 a.m., to 5 a.m. Drivers should watch for message boards dates and times the ramp will be closed.
LANE CLOSURES: Alternating left and right lane and shoulder closures during nighttime hours between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, are possible. Lane widths will be reduced to 11 feet. Northbound lane closures from I-81 mile marker 136 to 141. Southbound Lane closures from I-81 mile marker 141 to 136.

Nightly lane closures may be in place along the right lane with possible nightly ramp narrows as needed for guardrail and shoulder strengthening. Northbound I-81 lane closures from mile marker 138 to 142. The project also includes replacing six bridges, widening two bridges, installing approximately 2.6 miles of sound barrier walls along northbound I-81, improving the southbound exit 137 off-ramp intersection at Wildwood Road and adding interchange lighting at exits 137, 140 and 141 are also included in the project. Expected completion in early 2026.

I-81 NORTHBOUND AT EXIT 105 NEW RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Traffic on northbound I-81 has been switched onto the newly constructed bridge over the New River at the Montgomery/Pulaski County line. The old bridge is being demolished. Lane and shoulder closures may be in place near exit 105. Lane closure may be in effect during the week from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m. Shoulder closures may be in effect at any time during the week. Slow rolls may be performed on I-81 in the north and southbound lanes from mile marker 98 to 109. Speed limit is reduced to 60 miles per hour in the work zone. Shoulder closures will remain in place though the duration of the project. Project completion is estimated by summer 2023.

SLOW ROLLS: A slow roll operation may be in place daily, Monday through Friday, between mile marker 101 and 105 northbound and between mile marker 109 and 105 southbound, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. On Feb. 16 and 17, slow roll operations will be in place northbound between mile marker 101-105 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and again overnight beginning at 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. On Feb. 16, slow roll operations will be in place southbound between mile marker 109-105 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. On Feb. 21 and 22, slow roll operations will be in place northbound between mile marker 101-105 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and again overnight beginning at 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. On Feb. 21, slow roll operations will be in place southbound between mile marker 109-105 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. **LANE CLOSURES:** Nighttime alternating lane closures will be in place on I-81 northbound between mile markers 104-106 from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. On Feb. 16 and 17, a right lane closure northbound will be in place between mile marker 104-106 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. On Feb. 21 and 22, a right lane closure northbound will be in place between mile

marker 104-106 between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.
ROUTE 605: Alternating lane closures and flagging operations will be present on Route 605, located under the New River Bridge, for work overhead on the bridge.
SLOW ROLLS: Slow rolls may be utilized periodically on both the northbound and southbound lanes from mile marker 98-109 for structural steel deliveries and setting beams.

I-81 BRIDGE DECK REPAIRS – Weather permitting, crews will repair bridge decks on Interstate 81. Between mile markers 138 to 152, right and left lane closures will be in place northbound and southbound during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays

INTERSTATE 581 ROUTE 581 BRIDGE WORK OVER WILLIAMSON ROAD – Bridge work is underway on Route 11 (Williamson Road). Intermittent and alternating lane closures between the intersections with Rutherford Avenue and Wells Avenue are still possible. Intermittent daytime and nighttime lane closures between the intersections above may still be required utilizing flagging operations. Any impacts to I-581 will be minimal. Expected completion Spring 2023. Alternating lane closures between the above referenced intersections are scheduled for Monday night, Feb. 13 and Tuesday night, February 14.

I-581/220 EXPRESSWAY PAVING OPERATIONS – Weather permitting, crews will pave, patch and repair pavement on various routes. Lane closures may be in place during nighttime hours, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. the following morning. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

I-581/220 LANE & RAMP CLOSURES FOR PAVING AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS IN ROANOKE COUNTY – Weather permitting, crews will be milling and paving along Interstate 81. Right and left lane closures will be in place along northbound and southbound lanes during nighttime hours. Drivers should expect possible delays.

ROANOKE CITY
13th STREET SE IMPROVEMENTS WITH DETOUR – A project to improve a portion of 13th Street SE in Roanoke is underway. Located in a resi-

dential neighborhood just east of downtown Roanoke, this project will improve traffic flow and connectivity along 13th Street SE from Tazewell Avenue to Norfolk Avenue. The project entails reconstructing about 0.2-mile of 13th Street as an improved, two-lane roadway with 10.5-foot-wide travel lane and a raised median. A new roadway will extend 13th Street to Norfolk Avenue and the intersection at 13th Street and Wise Avenue will be reconfigured to include a roundabout. Bike lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and curb and gutter will also be added. Southbound 13th Street traffic has a detour in place using Norfolk Avenue onto 12th Street to Tazewell Avenue. This detour will be in place throughout the duration of this project. Signs will be posted to designate the detour route. Northbound 13th Street will remain open to traffic. Flaggers may be possible and the speed limit through the work zone is 25 mph. The project is expected to be completed in summer 2023.

TRAFFIC PATTERN CHANGE: Northbound traffic is switched to the northbound lane of 13th Street. Southbound traffic will still be detoured around the work zone.

ROANOKE COUNTY
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CLOSURE – The Blue Ridge Parkway will be repairing slope failures and a culvert failure at mile marker 127.9. A 15-mile stretch of the Parkway, mile marker 121.4 to 136, will be closed to all uses including cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. Detour signs to detour traffic around the Bent Mountain section of the Parkway will be in place. Traffic will be rerouted to Route 220 south to Route 419 north to Route 221 south. Traffic traveling north on the Parkway would be reversed. The detour is expected to be in place until 2023.

BOTETOURT COUNTY
ROUTE 616 CLOSURE – On Feb. 27 at 8 a.m., Route 616 (Blue Ridge Springs Road) will be closed to traf-

fic for a bridge replacement over the Branch of Glade Creek. The bridge is located 1.05 mile from Route 460 and 0.55 miles from the dead end. A detour will be in place. The bridge is scheduled to reopen by the end of the day on March 2, 2023.

DALEVILLE INTERSECTION PROJECT FOR FIELDSTONE DEVELOPMENT ACCESS – Lane closures northbound and southbound on Route 220 in Daleville will be in place for construction of a median with cross-over, a right turn lane and a new traffic signal. This work is associated with construction of the Fieldstone Development. Lane closures will be set up on various days in early 2023.

ROUTE 11 BUCHANAN BRIDGE PROJECT - A construction project on the Route 11 Bridge in the Town of Buchanan is underway. Water Street is closed for the duration of the project and drivers should expect periodic lane closures with flagging operations to be in place during daytime hours. Message boards are present to alert and update drivers. Expected completion in summer 2023.

ROUTE 611 (GREYLEEDGE ROAD) – A 1.5-mile section of Route 611 (Greyleedge Road) is closed due to flooding that damaged the roadway. Extensive repairs will be needed and a detour will be in place. There is no estimated time for the road to reopen.

CRAIG COUNTY
ROUTE 311 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER MEADOW CREEK – Temporary signals control traffic across the bridge and will be in place throughout the project. Construction will begin on the northbound side of the bridge and once completed, work will switch to the southbound side. In addition, a section of Route 646 (Allen Street) between

Route 650 and Route 311 will be closed during construction and a signed detour will be in place. All traffic will be detoured to Marshall Street and Kanawha Street to access either 311 or the homes located off Allen Street. Speed limit will be reduced to 35 mph in the work zone with a width restriction of 9 feet. Drivers should expect delays and allow extra travel time through the work zone. Weather permitting, the bridge is expected to be open to traffic by the late spring 2023.

TRAFFIC SWITCH: Traffic is using the southbound lane to the northbound lane while work continues. Southbound lanes are closed. Temporary traffic signals will continue to direct traffic and message boards will notify drivers.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
ROUTE 8 PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS - Work will soon begin to construct pedestrian improvements on Route 8 in Riner. The work zone will begin at the intersection with Route 669 (Union Valley Road) and will end at the current site of the Atlantic Union Bank. Drivers should expect lane closures with flagging operations between the hours of 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. through the start of the project until May 24, end of the school year. Once the school year is complete, lane closures will expand in hours to 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Expected completion is late summer 2023.

ROUTE 663 CLOSURE FOR BRIDGE WORK - On Feb. 13 at 8 a.m., weather permitting, Route 663 (Walton Road) will be closed to traffic for a bridge replacement over the Crab Creek. The bridge is located 1.95 miles from Route 720 and 1.80 miles from Route 114. A detour will be in place. The bridge is scheduled to reopen by the end of the day on Feb. 17, 2023. If weather impacts these dates, the project will be rescheduled for Feb. 20-24.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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<p>BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 11599 Cumberland Gap Road/Rt. 42, New Castle, 864-5242; church phone: 544-7040 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m., Choir Tuesday 7:30p.m., Youth Outreach and Missions Program. Rev. Charles Stacy.</p> <p>CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH Duane Wente, Minister, Rt. 42, New Castle, 540-864-5692. Sunday: Worship 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>CORNERSTONE CHURCH Pastor Don Brown, Corner of Salem and Wagner, New Castle, 580-3228. Sunday Worship 10:30am (Children meet separately, Nursery provided). Bible Study - Wednesday 6p Teens - Wednesday 6p. Ministries: Men, Ladies, Young Adult, and Seniors. Times vary, call for details.</p> <p>CRAIG HEALING SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) Pastor - Kenneth W. Davis, Jr., 6 Grannys Branch Road (Johns Creek), New Castle, Phone: 864-6102. Sunday School at 10 am. Sunday Worship at 11 am every Sunday. Fellowship meal after Sunday Worship on second Sundays. Everyone is welcome!</p> <p>CRAIG VALLEY BAPTIST 171 Salem Avenue, New Castle, 864-5667; Sunday School 10:00 a.m., Sunday worship 11:00 a.m., Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study 7:00 p.m., Youth Group 6:30-8:00PM, Bible Buddies at 6:30-8:00PM. Transportation provided - call the church. Hearing devices also available. www.craigvalleybaptist.com</p> <p>CRAIG VALLEY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP HWY 621, Pastor Roy Lee Law Jr., "Jay", 864-8984. Sunday School 10:00am; Worship 11:00am., Wednesday night Bible study 7pm, from HWY 311, up HWY 621, 8 miles on left.</p> <p>CROSSROADS CHURCH 21892 Craigs Creek Road, New Castle. Pastor Gary Burch. 864-7520. Sunday School- 10-10:45AM, Sunday Worship - 11AM-Noon.</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST Pastor Kevin Altizer, Corner of Main Street & Boyd Ave., New Castle. Church phone 864-5919. Sunday School 10:00AM, Sunday Worship 11:00AM and 6PM. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM, Youth Group</p>	<p>7:00PM, Reformers Unanimous Addiction Recovery every Friday evening at 7PM.</p> <p>GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD 5530 Catawba Valley Drive, Catawba, VA, 540-384-7075. Pastor Lorraine Taylor, agladypastor@msn.com. Sunday service begins at 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Evening service at 7:00 p.m.; Youth (ages 13-18) & Super Church (ages 4-12) Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You can also watch on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. www.graceassemblycatawaba.org</p> <p>GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 159 Old Railroad Ave, New Castle, 540-864-PRAY, Sunday School 9:30AM, Sunday Worship Service 10:00AM, Wednesday Night Services 7:00PM.</p> <p>HEBRON UNITED METHODIST Pastor Rodney Longmire, Rt. 606, 1981 Caldwell Mt. Rd., New Castle, 540-400-3419. Worship 11:15AM. LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Rev. Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>LEVEL GREEN CHRISTIAN CHURCH 3388 Cumberland Gap Rd. Newport, Duane Wente, Minister, 540-544-7179. Sunday School 10:00am, Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am, Children's Church 11:00am. Choir Practice, bi-weekly 7:00pm, Ladies meeting first Monday of each month at 7:00pm.</p> <p>LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST Pastor Lee Looney, Rt. 311 N., New Castle, 540-525-7662. Sunday: Sunday School 10AM, 11AM, & 6PM. Wednesday Bible Study 7PM.</p> <p>MOUNTAIN VIEW CHRISTIAN 4199 Craig Valley Drive, New Castle, Jonathan Lee, pastor, 864-6622. Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Children's Church 9:15 a.m., Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>NEW CASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH "WHERE YOUR HEART CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE" 282 Salem Ave., New Castle, 864-5212; Pastor Bill Frazier. Sunday Service: 10 A.M.; Wednesday night Bible study at 6:00 P.M. for K-5; If you need a ride to church, please contact Calvin Duncan by 8 P.M. on Saturday at 864-5321; www.nc-cc.org.</p>	<p>NEW CANTERBURY PENTECOSTAL FELLOWSHIP Pastor John D. Abbott, Hwy 621 (10 miles), phone: 864-8242, Sunday Prayer 10:00-10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Service 6:00 pm.</p> <p>PAXTON CHAPEL Pastor Kenny Davis, 17 Sage Brush Lane, New Castle; "Presenting God's Word Faithfully"; Sunday School 10:00 AM; Sunday Worship Service 11:15 AM; visit us on the web at www.paxtonchapelchurch.com; email at paxtonchapel@yahoo.com.</p> <p>THE CHURCH OF CHRIST 118 Main Street, New Castle. Service Times: Sunday, Bible classes-10 a.m., Worship-11:00 a.m., Evening Worship-6 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible classes - 7 p.m.</p> <p>NEW CASTLE UNITED METHODIST Rev. San Kang, 364 Main St., New Castle, Va. Sunday School 10AM, Worship 11AM; UMW 3rd Wednesday@1PM, Youth and other programs, Bible Studies.</p> <p>ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH 99 2nd Street, New Castle. Rev. Stephen McNally. 540-473-3691. Mass is on Sunday at 11:15 AM.</p> <p>CRAIG COUNTY COMMUNITY CHURCH - 'WELCOME HOME!' Sunday service 9-10:15am at the VFW building in New Castle. Casual dress if you desire and contemporary praise and worship. If you don't have a 'home' church, please join us at ours with Pastor Gary Burch. Check us out on facebook or contact us at: craigcountycommunity-church@gmail.com.</p> <p>ST. THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH Located at 4910 Hubert Rd, NW Roanoke, Va. Traditional Liturgical Lenten Services, Sunday at 10:30 am. Call (540) 589-1299 or visit www.sttfc.org for midweek masses and events. (In Roanoke, go E on Hersherberger, L on Hubert to 4910).</p>
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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 304 Goad Road, Fincastle, VA
Tax Map No. 62-155
In execution of a Deed of Trust dated August 31, 2011, recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court for the County of Botetourt, Virginia, as Instrument No. 110003218, the Substitute Trustee will offer the above-described property for sale to the highest bidder at public auction on the date and time referenced below. All of that certain tract or parcel of land containing 1.375 acres, more or less, as shown on that certain plat of survey made by Charles R. McMurry, CLS, dated March 12, 1996, recorded in the Clerk's Office for the Circuit Court of Botetourt County, Virginia, in Plat Book 17, at Page 27. Date of Sale: March 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Location: outside the Botetourt County Circuit Court, Courthouse, Main Street, Fincastle, VA 24090. Terms: CASH: a deposit in the form of certified funds in the amount of \$10,000 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower. Settlement within thirty (30) days of date of sale. Time is of the essence. OPTIONS: 1. All costs of conveyance, examination of title, recording charges, etc. will be at cost of purchaser with the exception of the grantor's tax. Neither the Substitute Trustee nor any other party guarantees or covenants to deliver or in any way to obtain possession of the premises for any third party purchaser 2. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to reject all bids, extend the time to receive bids or withdraw the property from sale at any time. In addition, should the Substitute Trustee be unable, for any reason, in its sole discretion, to convey title, the successful bidder's sole remedy in law or equity shall be the return of his deposit. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect. Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale. The Substitute Trustee will convey the above-described property to the purchaser(s) by Special Warranty deed at settlement and makes no additional representations or warranties of any kind regarding the title to said property. John K. Prillaman, Esq. Substitute Trustee For Information Contact: John K. Prillaman, Esq. OPN LAW 3140 Chaparral Drive Roanoke, Virginia 24018 (540) 725-8194

Legals - Botetourt County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA CODE §§1-211.1; 8.01-316, 20-104 Case No. CL23-40 ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 305 E. MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re CHLOE GRACE DUNN v. The object of this suit is to: change the minor's name. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL MATTHEW DUNN appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2023 @2:30pm. JANUARY 11, 2023 STEVEN A. MCGRAW, clerk

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Legals - Botetourt County

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
Commonwealth of Virginia VA CODE §§ 1-211.1; 8.01-316, -317, 20-104 CASE No. CWF210000261 BOTETORT Circuit Court 1 W. Main Street, Fincastle VA 24090 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re ARTHUR BERNHARDT HENSLEY, JR., DECEASED. The object of this suit is to: authorize the Administrator of the Estate of Arthur Bernhardt Hensley, Jr. to distribute the entire estate to the descendants of the decedent's mother. It is ORDERED that any unknown heirs, devisees, successors and assigns of Arthur Bernhardt Hensley, Jr. appear at the above named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 6, 2023. January 13, 2023 TOMMY L. MOORE; CLERK

Legals - City of Radford

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia
VA Code §§ 8.01-316, -317 Case No. CL23-6883 City of Radford Circuit Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re Robert A. Jones, Jr. v. Victor Carter, et al. The object of this suit is to: Quiet the title to 530 W. Rock Road, Radford, VA 24141. It is ORDERED that heirs of Charles Jones, deceased appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before MARCH 15, 2023. JANUARY 27, 2023 REBECCA PRICE Deputy Clerk

Legals - City of Salem

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA VA CODE §§1-211.1; 8.01-316, 20-104 Case No. CL23-40 ROANOKE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT 305 E. MAIN STREET, SALEM, VA 24153 Commonwealth of Virginia, in re CHLOE GRACE DUNN v. The object of this suit is to: change the minor's name. It is ORDERED that MICHAEL MATTHEW DUNN appear at the above-named court and protect his/her interests on or before March 14, 2023 @2:30pm. JANUARY 11, 2023 STEVEN A. MCGRAW, clerk

Zoning Administration NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on February 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications. **Request of the City of Salem, property owner, and Roanoke County, project administrator, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow construction of the greenway trail, extending from the existing trail on Salem City owned property (Tax Map # 178-4-1) near Kingsmill Drive to the Roanoke County owned property (Parcel ID # 056.01-01-17.00-0000) near Riverside Nursery. Section 106-226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood heights is fully offset.**

Request of the City of Salem, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow the bridge widening of Apperson Drive Bridge along with incidental greenway trail work on and near the 1600 block East Riverside Drive (Tax Map # 259-2-1). Section 106-226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood

Legals - City of Salem

heights is fully offset.
At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 375-3032). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM Zoning Administrator

Legals - Craig County

TRUSTEES SALE OF 146 HANNAH CIR AKA RR 2 BOX 1482, NEW CASTLE, VA 24127
In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$165,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 3.000000% dated March 6, 2006, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the COUNTY OF CRAIG as Deed Book 154, Page 537, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the COUNTY OF CRAIG, on the courthouse steps at the front of the Circuit Court building for the County of Craig located at 303 Main Street, New Castle, Virginia on March 14, 2023 at 3:00 PM, the property with improvements to wit: 5.00 ACRE AS DESCRIBED ON PLAT RECORDED IN CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CRAIG COUNTY, VIRGINIA IN DEED BOOK 135, PAGE 266 Tax Map No. 35-2-2 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: Conventional. Reference Number 17-265489. PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees, C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP, 10021 Balls Ford Road, Suite 200, Manassas, Virginia 20109 (703) 449-5800.

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the release of treated wastewater into a waterbody in Craig County, Virginia. PERMIT NO.: VA0091324 NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY: Department of Wildlife Resources - Paint Bank Fish Cultural Station, 14505 Paint Bank Road, Paint Bank, VA 24131 DEQ CONTACT: Lynn V. Wise, (540) 597-0300, lynn.wise@deq.virginia.gov, 901 Russell Dr, Salem, VA 24153 The full public notice is available at https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/water/virginia-pollution-discharge-elimination-system-vpdes.

Legals - Montgomery County

Notice of Public Auction
The contents of the following storage unit(s) will be sold at Public Auction to enforce our owner's lien: Unit #417 Sale will be conducted at B&B Storage, at 1015 Radford St., Christiansburg VA on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. All sales are final & CASH only

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Legals - Roanoke County

Public Notice Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the continued release of treated wastewater into a water body in Roanoke County, Virginia. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: February 9, 2023 to March 11, 2023 PERMIT NAME: Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit - Wastewater issued by DEQ pursuant to applicable water laws and regulations APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284, PO Box 538, Salem, VA 24153; VA0077895 FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 STP; 3233 Catawba Valley Drive, Roanoke County. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 has applied for reissuance of a permit for the private Roanoke Moose Lodge #284 STP. The applicant proposes to release treated sewage wastewaters from the Lodge at a maximum rate of four-thousand seven-hundred gallons-per-day into a water body. Septage from the treatment process septic tank will be disposed by transfer and further treatment at the Roanoke Regional Water Pollution Control Plant. The facility proposes to release the treated wastewaters in Masons Creek in Roanoke County in the Roanoke River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. The permit will limit the following pollutants to amounts that protect water quality: physical and chemical properties, nutrients, organic matter, solids, and bacteria. HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing on the draft permit by hand-delivery, e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. DEQ must receive hand-delivery and postal mail by close of business and email and fax comments by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses or email addresses of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. A public hearing may be held, including another comment period, if public response is significant, based on individual requests for a public hearing, and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit. CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Susan Edwards; Blue Ridge Regional Office, 901 Russell Drive, Salem, VA 24153-3068; Phone: (540)795-9749; E-mail: Susan.Edwards@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (540)689-4178. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment or may request copies of the documents from the contact person listed above.

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Trustee Ordered Auction! Wednesday, February 22nd @ 1pm. 203 Interstate Drive, Covington, VA 24426. 75 Unit Independent Living Facility. 1 & 2 bedroom units, square footage from 305 to 805. Over 7.5 acres of campus including: restaurant, pool, theater, exercise room, lounge/bistro, laundry room, chapel, and library. Spacious rooms and bathrooms, kitchenettes, and sinks. Call Matt Garten-VA LIC#2860 (540)962-1155. HYPERLINK "https://www.greenwaysrealestateandauktion.com/" https://www.greenwaysrealestateandauktion.com/.

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Covid-19 from page 4

region of China.

I believe there has since been substantial circumstantial evidence that favors COVID-19 emerging due to a lab-related incident.

Not knowing its true origins hinders our ability to prepare for similar pandemics in the future. Getting answers to the root cause should allow us to develop countermeasures.

In June 2021, I and the other Republican members of the Energy & Commerce Committee requested the Government Accountability Office (GAO) analyze what is needed to better respond to the origins of future potential pandemic pathogens.

One of the big takeaways of the hearing, was the need for investigators to have better access to samples from early cases in order to be effective in determining the pandemic's origin. No matter the origin of COVID-19, it started in

China, and they hid from the world for months that they had a serious problem. That delay cost lives.

During our second hearing we reviewed federal actions – and inactions – in responding to the pandemic, specifically by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC).

I, along with now-Chairs Rodgers and Guthrie, have sent the NIH 14 letters requesting information, ranging in date from March 18, 2021, to November 30, 2022, and most have gone completely unanswered. These letters requested answers from the NIH regarding their lack of compliance and oversight into grant awards to EcoHealth Alliance, an organization which aims to prevent pandemics through studying

emerging infectious diseases, including coronavirus.

The NIH has been reluctant to answer our inquiries on issues such as EcoHealth withholding data, potentially double billing the federal government, and missing laboratory notebooks and electronic files that were supposed to be delivered to NIH by EcoHealth.

Additionally, NIH has not been forthcoming with information regarding EcoHealth's sub-award grantee, the Wuhan Institute of Virology, and issues arising from EcoHealth's multiple compliance shortcomings with the Institute.

But wait, it gets worse. The NIH suspended EcoHealth's grants in July 2020 over grant noncompliance concerns and later found EcoHealth did not fulfill certain grant terms. In essence, they found EcoHealth in breach of their contract.

Astoundingly, the NIH still gave a subsequent grant to EcoHealth in September 2022. This is

outrageous! During my questioning, I asked Dr. Tabak of the NIH why they would give more of our American taxpayer dollars to an entity that breached their contract and failed to get required information from China. It appears there are years of missing documentation.

He was unable to explain.

His answers did not convince me that COVID-19 did not emerge because of a lab-related incident.

To this day, the NIH has not properly responded to our inquiries. It is not acceptable to "Stonewall" any Member of Congress, whether Democrat or Republican, with oversight authority. The Subcommittee will continue to press the NIH on their lack of oversight of EcoHealth and ensure moving forward that the NIH's grantmaking policies and procedures guarantee safe, appropriate, and efficient use of federal taxpayer dollars.

Park from page 4

water, dramatically increasing the water capacity available to Wood Haven Technology Park.

The county hopes the increase will enhance available utility capacity, strengthen speed to market and contribute to a future economic win for the entire Roanoke Region, which it said it hopes will lead to a significant capital investment and creation of additional high-wage employment opportunity for regional residents.

"This is excellent news for the economic landscape," John Hull, executive director of the Roanoke Region Partnership, said. "It's not uncommon for the Partnership to work with companies seeking expansions that require significant water utilities. This project will make the region

more competitive for business investment, and thus, better employment opportunity."

"The Water Authority provides quality utility services to meet our customers' needs and enhance our regional community. This water line extension supports our long-range plan to increase water distribution resiliency and fire protection for residents and makes this area of the county even more attractive for future investment in our community," Michael T. McEvoy executive director at the Western Virginia Water Authority, added.

The \$820,000 award, coupled with \$670,000 provided by the Western Virginia Water Authority, brings the total project cost to \$1,490,000. The authority will administer the work for the proposed project, which it hopes to have completed by the end of 2023.

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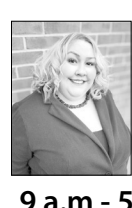


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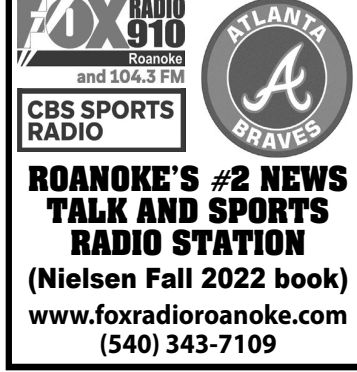
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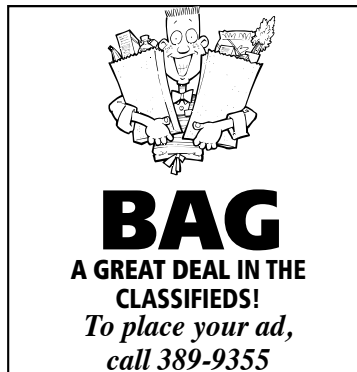
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ROCKETS WERE SET TO PLAY BATH COUNTY TUESDAY NIGHT WITH SPOT IN THE REGION 1C BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT ON THE LINE



Craig's Zachary Peters drives to the basket.

The Craig County boys were scheduled to host Bath County Tuesday night with a spot in the Region 1C tournament on the line.

Craig and Bath tied for fourth place in the Pioneer District regular season. Craig held the tie-breaker, so the Rockets got to host the "four-five" game this week. It was originally scheduled for Monday but moved back to Tuesday due to school being closed

at Bath County because of bad weather.

The top four teams in the Pioneer are included in the Region 1C tournament, along with the top four in the Mountain Empire, so Tuesday's game was also for a spot in the regional.

Craig finished 4-8 in the district after splitting their last two games last week. They played at Covington on February 6 and dropped an 86-45 decision to a stout Cougar team. Covington jumped out to a 15 point lead in the first quarter and the Rockets never recovered.

Matthew Lucas led the Craig scoring with 21 points while Zach Peters had 10 and Drew Duncan chipped in with seven. Covington made 10 three pointers in the game and then beat undefeated Narrows the next evening.

The Rockets wrapped up the regular season with a 55-54 win at Highland County last Wednesday. That enabled Craig to tie for fourth and get the home game to open the Pioneer tournament this week.

"This ended up being one of the biggest games of the season for us," said coach Ryan Frazier.

"It was the last regular season game of the year, and if we won we would end up in a tie for fourth place. If we were to lose we would be sixth, so the chance to host a first round district tournament game was on the line."

The game was tight throughout with Craig leading by two points at the half. The Rockets were ahead by five with a couple minutes left in the game and used the clock well, working the ball around to kill time as the Rams were trying to foul. However, Craig missed four free throws down the stretch while Highland scored a couple buckets and ended up with the ball with just a few seconds left on the clock. The Rams missed two put backs around the basket at the buzzer to give Craig the one point win, 55-54.

"I was really proud of our effort and determination," said Frazier. "We didn't get many calls and it was parents' night as well, but we didn't let that stop us and fought hard to get the win. This was a big team win."

Peters scored 18 points and had eight assists on the night. Lucas added 21 points and Hayden Reynolds scored eight.



Matthew Lucas takes it to the hole at a recent game.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

FOUR PIONEER GIRLS' TEAMS MAKE REGION TOURNEY, CC JAYVEES HAVE WINNING SEASON

The Craig County girls were hoping to advance to the Pioneer District semifinals and qualify for the Region 1C basketball tournament when they traveled to Covington on Monday.

Results were too late for publication, but Monday's winner advances to the Pioneer semifinals and will play

the winner of Monday's game between Eastern Montgomery and Parry McCluer. Those two tied for first place in the regular season so they met Monday at James River to break the tie.

Craig finished fifth during the regular season, pitting them against fourth seeded Covington on Monday.

The top four teams in both the Pioneer and Mountain Empire will play in the Region 1C tournament, so Monday's game was also big because the winner would qualify for the region as one of the top four Pioneer teams. If Craig makes the region they would open with George Wythe, the top team in the Mountain Empire, next week.

The Craig varsity didn't play last week but the junior varsity wrapped up their season with a 10-6 overall record despite playing with just five girls for most of the games.

Kailyn Jones, an eighth grader, finished the jayvee season with 204 total points for a 13.6 points per game average of 15 games. She averaged

nine rebounds per game along with four blocks.

Hayleigh Flowers was second in scoring with 48 total points while Brooklyn Cayton finished with 40 points in 12 games before moving up to the varsity. Maddie Kendall finished with 22 points in 16 games, Jenna Boitnette finished with 37 points in 16 games and Kammie Fisher played seven games and scored 29 points before moving up for varsity.

Madison Underwood played four games when she wasn't playing for the varsity. Daileigh Donithan played three games with 22 points and Kallie Fisher played four games for 22 points, averaging 5.5 points per game.

"I was pleased with the jayvee squad this

year, with five players on the team mainly through the year and finishing with a winning record," said Jones. "If the other freshmen would have played jayvee all season (Kallie and Kammie, Brooklyn, Madison and Daileigh) I felt that we may not have lost a game. The future will be bright for this class. Jones is already looking toward next year and has plans for a busy summer for the girls.

"We plan to attend Liberty Team camp in June, and hoping for High Point camp, Roanoke, and East Carolina," he said. "It will be a busy off season as we will be lifting and doing speed and agility drills two days a week as soon as the season ends."



Annabelle Gregory of the Rockets rushes the ball up the floor.



PHOTOS BY BRIAN HOFFMAN

Coach Brock Jones instructs the girls on the bench at a recent game.

REG HOOPS AT CRAIG COUNTY HIGH



Action from recent Craig County recreation league games at Craig County High School. Here a Craig County Outlaw fires up a shot against the Wildcats, the Sparkling Unicorns (blue uniform) take on the Hotshots in a girls game and Wildcats pressure a Warrior player in boys' action.



PHOTOS BY CHELSEA LOUTHEN

